



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

May 15, 2020

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Kaptur:

I write in reply to your April 22, 2020 letter inquiring about the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) eligibility to receive direct payment from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) established under Title V of the Coronavirus Aid, Response, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

Treasury began disbursing CRF assistance to states on April 15, 2020 and to local governments on April 19, and all funds for states and local governments were disbursed by April 24—ahead of the April 26 statutory deadline. The CARES Act allows for local governments with a population over 500,000 people to apply directly to Treasury for CRF funds. In developing the methodology for determining which local governments were eligible to apply directly to Treasury for CRF funds, Treasury relied on data from the U.S. Census Bureau, and the eligible units of local government were posted on Treasury's website.

Treasury determined that Councils of Government, like NOACA, are not units of local government eligible to receive payments from CRF.

However, Treasury has endeavored to provide ample flexibility for states and local governments to combat the effects of the virus within the bounds of the statute. For example, the guidance allows state and local governments the flexibility to transfer funds to additional local governments within their jurisdiction.

For the latest guidance and information on the CRF, please visit [Treasury.gov/CARES](https://www.treasury.gov/CARES). If you have further questions, please direct your staff to contact the Office of Legislative Affairs.

Sincerely,

Frederick W. Vaughan  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary  
Office of Legislative Affairs

cc: The Honorable Sherrod Brown  
The Honorable Anthony Gonzalez  
The Honorable David P. Joyce